

The Detailed Project Report for the Pancheshwar Project would be completed within six months and the Project would be designed as a peaking power plant, to maximise its net benefits. The signing of "Power Trade Agreement" would promote participation of the private Sector in quicker and enhanced development of the power sector in both countries. The MOU on Civil Aviation should facilitate significant growth in business and tourism between the two countries.

Nepal's request for an additional transit route to Bangladesh via Phulbari was accepted. It was also agreed that the modalities and working arrangements would be decided within the next two months. The new arrangements would be reviewed six months thereafter.

Discussions were held on a number of subjects covering bilateral issues and other matters of mutual interests. It was noted with satisfaction that there was a similarity of views on bilateral matters and issues of mutual concern.

The visit contributed to the strengthening of relations and furtherance of cooperation for mutual benefit of the two countries. PM had an audience with His Majesty the King and held discussions with his counterpart Mr. Lokendra Bahadur Chand and important leaders of major political parties. The two countries reaffirmed the goodwill and their common desire to promote joint economic development including harnessing of natural resources for the betterment of the lives of the citizens of both countries.

Urine Therapy

*4. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the urine therapy is widely used by people in several parts of the world;

(b) whether the Government proposed to sponsor research into the efficacy of urine therapy;

(c) whether the Government also propose to give publicity to the views of experts on urine therapy to make people aware of the zero cost therapy which is available; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (d) There have been news items/articles in magazines on urine therapy. But, no authentic data on the basic scientific reports/clinical trials are available to substantiate the claim about the therapeutic efficacy of urine therapy in various ailments. The task of verifying the therapeutic efficacy of drugs/treatments mentioned in the authoritative texts vests in the Central Councils for Research in Ayurveda & Siddha and Yoga & Naturopathy. These councils initiate research projects on the basis of the recommendations of their respective

Scientific Advisory Committees. In the absence of scientific validation, there is at present no proposal to publicise urine therapy.

[Translation]

Child Labour Welfare Projects

*5. SHRI N.J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of voluntary organisation operating in different parts of the country specially in the tribal areas of Gujarat and being funded by the Union Government to launch child labour welfare projects under projects grant-in-aid scheme, as on date and during the last three years;

(b) the details of achievements made by such organisations during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints regarding heavy misuse of Central financial assistance by these voluntary organisations particularly those which are operating in tribal areas; and

(d) if so, the number of complaints received so far and the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (d) A statement indicating the names of voluntary organisations and NGOs assisted under grant-in-aid scheme during the last three years is attached. From the State of Gujarat, two voluntary organisations have been assisted under the scheme during 1994-97. Amrit Child Labour Welfare Trust, Ahmedabad, received financial assistance under the Scheme in March, 1994. The other voluntary organisation, namely, Gujarat Kelavani Trust, Ahmedabad was released financial assistance in March, 1997.

The total release under the scheme and the children covered during the last three years are as under:-

Year	Funds released (Rs in lakhs)	Children covered (In Nos.)
1994-95	7.49	2820
1995-96	27.29	4545
1996-97	62.54	7250

No complaints have been received regarding misuse of central financial assistance by the voluntary organisations.

Statement

List of organisations assisted under grant-in-aid scheme during the year 1994-95

1. The Congregation of the Sisters of the Cross of Chavanad, Tiruchirappalli.
2. Indian Council for Child Welfare, New Delhi (Child Labour in Beedi Industry in Madhya Pradesh).